

Discrete Random Variable Zoo II

CSE 312 26Su

Lecture 12

Announcements

Quiz 3 grades are out

Midterm on Wednesday during lecture

Bring your student ID, something to write with

Bring your own reference sheet + use the one that's given

See all the details on course website

Where Are We?

Last time:

- Zoo of Discrete RVs
- 

Today:

- Finish Zoo

Scenario: Negative Binomial

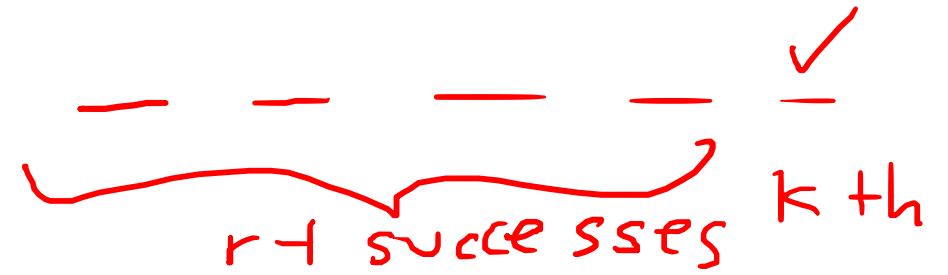
↓
Run independent trials with probability p . How many trials do you need until r successes? ↗ similar to Geo

→ Example

You're playing a carnival game, and there are r little kids nearby who all want a stuffed animal. You can win a single game (and thus win one stuffed animal) with probability p (independently each time) How many times will you need to play the game before every kid gets their toy?
 r kids



Try it



Run independent trials with probability p . How many trials do you need *until* r successes?

X is the number of trials till (and including) the r 'th success

all natural numbers $\geq r$

What is the **support** of X ? $\Omega_X = \{r, r+1, r+2, \dots, \infty\}$

What's the **PMF**?

i.e., what is the probability it takes exactly k trials till the r 'th success? $\swarrow \searrow$

Ideas:

① $\binom{k}{r} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}$ $\swarrow \searrow$

③ $(1-p)^{k-r} p^r$

④ $\binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}$

② $\binom{k-1}{r-1} p^{\textcircled{k}} (1-p)^{k-r}$

Fill out the poll everywhere: pollev.com/jolie312

Try it

Run independent trials with probability p . How many trials do you need *until r successes*?

X is the number of trials till (and including) the r 'th success

What is the **support** of X ? $\Omega_X = \{r, r + 1, r + 2, \dots\}$

What's the **PMF**?

i.e., what is the probability it takes exactly k trials till the r 'th success?

Negative Binomial Analysis

Run independent trials with probability p

X is the number of trials till (and including) the r 'th success

What's the **PMF**? Well how would we know $X = k$?

Negative Binomial Analysis

What's the **PMF**? Well how would we know $X = k$?

Of the first $k - 1$ trials, $r - 1$ must be successes.
And trial k must be a success.

1. We want **exactly $r - 1$ of the first $k - 1$ to be successes** – this sounds like a binomial! It's the $p_Y(r - 1)$ where $Y \sim \text{Bin}(k - 1, r - 1)$:

$$\binom{k-1}{r-1} (1-p)^{k-1-(r-1)} p^{r-1} = \binom{k-1}{r-1} (1-p)^{\underline{k-r}} p^{r-1}$$

2. Multiply by p , probability **k 'th trial is success**

$$\text{Total: } p_X(k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} (1-p)^{k-r} p^r$$

Negative Binomial Analysis

X is the number of trials till we see r successes

To see r successes:

We do trials until we see success 1.

Then do trials until success 2.

...do trials until success r .

What's the **expectation** and **variance** (hint: linearity)?

How can we write X as a sum of random variables?

brainstorm
3-4 min

Ideas:

$$\underline{X} = \underline{X_1} + \underline{X_2} + \dots$$

X_i — # of tries from $i-1$ to i th success

Fill out the poll everywhere: pollev.com/jolie312

Negative Binomial Analysis

X is the number of trials till we see r successes

To see r successes:

We do trials until we see success 1.

Then do trials until success 2.

...do trials until success r .

The total number of flips is...the **sum of geometric random variables!**

$$X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^r X_i$$

$$X_1 + X_2 + \dots$$

Handwritten blue text: $1 \rightarrow 2$ above the first term, and an arrow pointing from the word "sum" in the text above to the first term X_1 .

Negative Binomial Analysis

Let $Z_1, Z_2, \dots, \underline{Z_r}$ be independent copies of Geo(p)

Z_i are called "independent and identically distributed" or "i.i.d."

Because they are independent...and have identical pmfs.

$$X \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p) \quad X = Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_r.$$

$$\underline{\mathbb{E}[X]} = \mathbb{E}[Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_r] = \mathbb{E}[Z_1] + \mathbb{E}[Z_2] + \dots + \mathbb{E}[Z_r] = r \cdot \frac{1}{p}$$

$\uparrow$
 $\mathbb{E}[Z_i] = \frac{1}{p}$

Negative Binomial Analysis

Let $Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_r$ be independent copies of $\text{Geo}(p)$

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^r Z_i$$

$$X \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p) \quad X = Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_r.$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(\underline{Z_1} + \underline{Z_2} + \dots + Z_r)$$

Up until now we've just used the observation that $X = Z_1 + \dots + Z_r$.
= $\text{Var}(Z_1) + \text{Var}(Z_2) + \dots + \text{Var}(Z_r)$ because the Z_i are independent.

$$= \underline{r} \cdot \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

$$\swarrow \text{Var}(Z_i) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

Negative Binomial

$$X \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

Parameters: r : the number of successes needed, p the probability of success in a single trial

X is the number of trials needed to get the r^{th} success.

$$\text{PMF: } p_X(k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} (1-p)^{k-r} p^r$$

CDF: $F_X(k)$ is ugly, don't bother with it.

→ Expectation: $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{r}{p}$

→ Variance: $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$

Scenario: Hypergeometric

You have an urn with N balls, of which K are purple. You are going to draw n balls out of the urn without replacement. How many purple balls do we get in this sample?

X is the number of purple balls in this sample

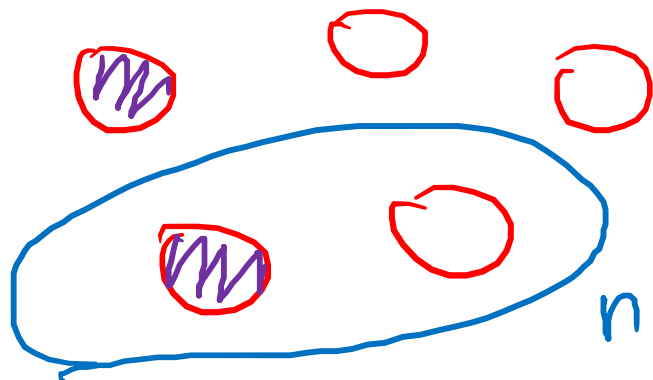
Hypergeometric: Analysis (PMF)

You have an urn with N balls, of which K are purple. You are going to draw n balls out of the urn **without** replacement. How many purple balls do we get in this sample?

X is the number of purple balls in this sample

If you draw out n balls, what is the probability you see k purple ones?

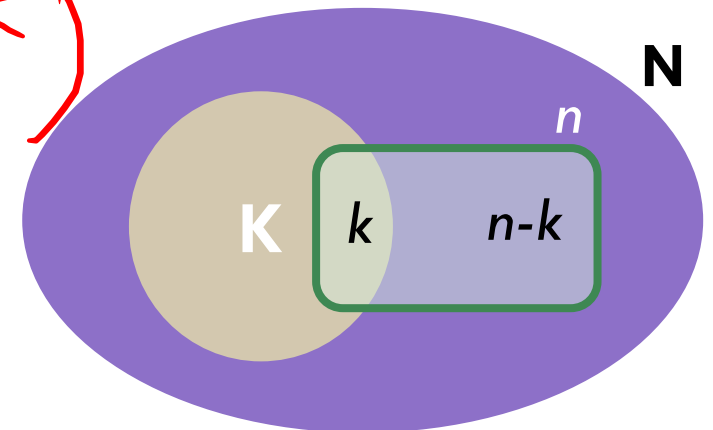
$$N = 5$$
$$K = 2$$



$$|\Omega| = \binom{N}{n}$$

$$|E| = \binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}$$

$$P(X=k) = \frac{|E|}{|\Omega|}$$



Hypergeometric: Analysis (PMF)

You have an urn with N balls, of which K are purple. You are going to draw n balls out of the urn **without** replacement. How many purple balls do we get in this sample?

X is the number of purple balls in this sample

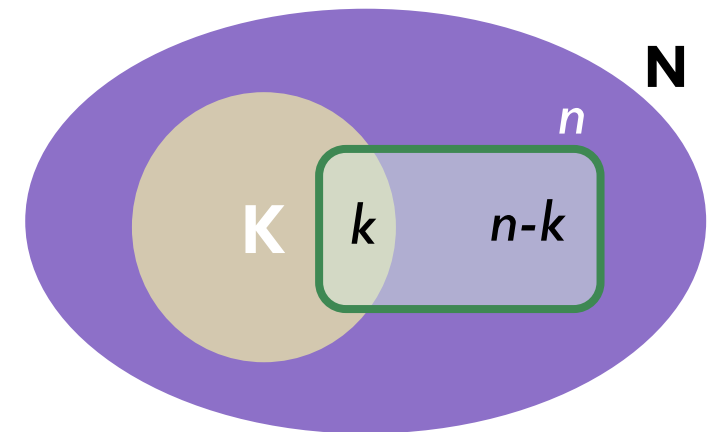
If you draw out n balls, what is the probability you see k purple ones?

Of the K purple, we draw out k choose which k will be drawn

Of the $N - K$ other balls, we will draw out $n - k$, choose which $N - K - (n - k)$ will be removed.

Sample space all subsets of size n

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$



Hypergeometric: Analysis (Expectation)

X is the number of purple balls in the sample

$$X = D_1 + D_2 + \cdots + D_n \quad \checkmark$$

Where D_i is the indicator that draw i is purple.

D_1 is 1 with probability K/N .

What about D_2 ?

$$\mathbb{P}(D_2 = 1) = \frac{K-1}{N-1} \cdot \frac{K}{N} + \frac{K}{N-1} \cdot \frac{K-N}{N} = \frac{K(K-N+K-1)}{N(N-1)} = \frac{K}{N}$$

In general $\mathbb{P}(D_i = 1) = \frac{K}{N}$

It might feel counterintuitive, but it's true!

Hypergeometric: Analysis

$\mathbb{E}[X]$

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^n D_i$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[D_1 + \cdots D_n] = \mathbb{E}[D_1] + \cdots + \mathbb{E}[D_n] = n \cdot \frac{K}{N}$$

Can we do the same for variance?

No! The D_i are dependent. Even if they have the same probability.

D_1 impact D_2

Hypergeometric Random Variable

$$X \sim \text{HypGeo}(N, K, n)$$

X is the number of success balls drawn in the sample.

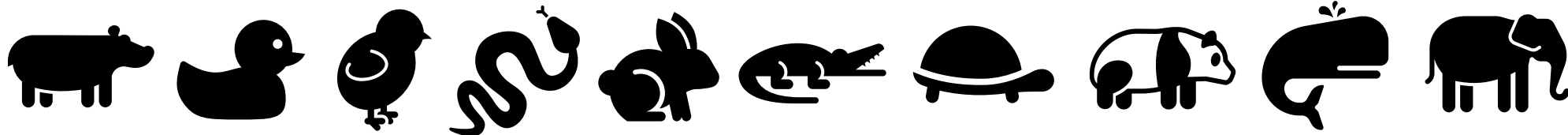
Parameters: A total of N balls in an urn, of which K are successes.
Draw n balls without replacement.

$$\text{PMF: } p_X(k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}} \quad \checkmark$$

Exp.
~~CDF~~: $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{nK}{N}$

$$\text{Variance: } \text{Var}(X) = \underline{n \cdot \frac{K}{N} \cdot \frac{N-K}{N} \cdot \frac{N-n}{N-1}}$$

Zoo!



$X \sim \text{Unif}(a, b)$

$$p_X(k) = \frac{1}{b - a + 1}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{a + b}{2}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{(b - a)(b - a + 2)}{12}$$

$X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$$p_X(0) = 1 - p;$$

$$p_X(1) = p$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = p$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = p(1 - p)$$

$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

$$p_X(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = np$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p)$$

$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$

$$p_X(k) = (1 - p)^{k-1} p$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1 - p}{p^2}$$

$X \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$

$$p_X(k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1 - p)^{k-r}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{r}{p}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{r(1 - p)}{p^2}$$

$X \sim \text{HypGeo}(N, K, n)$

$$p_X(k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = n \frac{K}{N}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{K(N-K)(N-n)}{N^2(N-1)}$$

$X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$

$$p_X(k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \lambda$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$$

Zoo Takeaways

You can do relatively complicated counting/probability calculations much more quickly than you could ~~week 1!~~

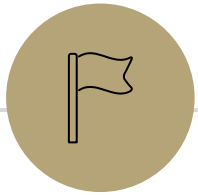
You can now explain why your problem is a zoo variable and save explanation on homework (and save yourself calculations in the future).

Don't spend extra effort ~~memorizing~~...but be careful when looking up Wikipedia articles.

The exact definitions of the parameters can differ (is a geometric random variable the number of failures before the first success, or the total number of trials including the success?)

Discrete Zoo of Random Variables

- **Uniform:** Every integer between a and b are equally likely
 $Unif(a, b)$
- **Bernoulli:** Whether there is success in one trial
 $Ber(p)$ is 1 with probability p and 0 otherwise
- **Binomial:** Number of successes in n independent trials
 $Bin(n, p)$ - n independent trials, probability p of success on each trial
- **Geometric:** Number of trials till first success
 $Geo(p)$ - probability p of success on each trial
- **Poisson:** Number of successes in a time interval
 $Poi(\lambda)$ - average number of successes in the time interval
- **Negative Binomial:** Number of trials till r' th success
 $NegBin(r, p)$ - probability p of success on each trial, want trials till the r' th success
- **Hypergeometric:** Number of successes when drawing a sample
 $HypGeo(N, K, n)$ - drawing a sample of n items from a set of N with K successes



Halfway Point!

What have we done over the past 4 weeks?

- Counting
Combinations, permutations, indistinguishable elements, stars and bars, inclusion-exclusion...
- Probability foundations
Events, sample space, axioms of probability, expectation, variance
- Conditional probability
Conditioning, independence, Bayes' Rule
- Refined our intuition
Especially around Bayes' Rule

Discrete RVs

What's next?

Continuous random variables.

So far our sample spaces have been countable. What happens if we want to choose a random real number?

How do expectation, variance, conditioning, etc. change in this new context?

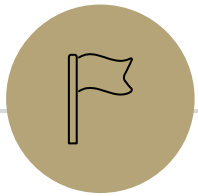
Mostly analogous to discrete cases, but with integrals instead of sums.

Analysis when it's inconvenient (or impossible) to exactly calculate probabilities.

Central Limit Theorem (approximating discrete distributions with continuous ones)

Tail Bounds/Concentration (arguing it's unlikely that a random variable is far from its expectation)

A first taste of making predictions from data (i.e., a bit of ML)



Midterm Reminders

wednesday :-)

Instructions

- You have sixty minutes to complete this exam.
- You may not use a calculator or any other electronic devices during the exam.
- • This is a closed note exam, with the exception of your own double-sided sheet of notes and a reference sheet with some of the most-used formulas has been provided.
- We will be scanning your exams before grading them. Please write legibly, and avoid writing up to the edge of the paper.
- If you run out of room, you may also use the last page for extra space, but tell us where to find your answer if it's not right below the problem.
- • In general, show us the work you used to get to an answer; explanations will help us award partial credit, but we do not expect explanations at the level we usually require on homeworks.
- • If your final answer to a question is correct, you will get full credit regardless of whether or not you provide any explanation.

Simplification Expectations

- Since you don't have a calculator for this exam, you do not have to do simplifications that could be done easily with a calculator. For example

$$\frac{\binom{5}{3} \cdot 17^2}{1-p} + 5^3$$

can be given as a final answer.

- However, answers which are much more complicated than the expected answer may receive deductions. For example: $\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i}$ or $\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n}$ are **not** simplified sufficiently.

Reference Sheet

Make sure to go over the reference sheet

Midterm - Reference Sheet

Complementary Counting: Let $\mathcal{U}$ be a (finite) universal set, and S a subset of interest. Then, $|S| = |\mathcal{U}| - |\mathcal{U} \setminus S|$.

Stars and Bars Method: The number of ways to distribute n indistinguishable balls into k distinguishable bins is

$$\binom{n+k-1}{k-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{n}$$

Binomial Theorem: Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ a positive integer. Then: $(x+y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$.

Principle of Inclusion-Exclusion (PIE):

2 events: $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$
 3 events: $|A \cup B \cup C| = |A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$
 k events: singles - doubles + triples - quads + ...

Pigeonhole Principle: If there are n pigeons we want to put into k holes (where $n > k$), then at least one pigeonhole must contain at least 2 (or to be precise, $\lceil n/k \rceil$) pigeons.

Key Probability Definitions: The *sample space* is the set Ω of all possible outcomes of an experiment. An *event* is any subset $E \subseteq \Omega$. Events E and F are *mutually exclusive* if $E \cap F = \emptyset$.

Probability space: A *probability space* is a pair $(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$, where Ω is the sample space and $\mathbb{P}: \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a *probability measure* such that $\sum_{x \in \Omega} \mathbb{P}(x) = 1$. The probability of an event $E \subseteq \Omega$ is $\mathbb{P}(E) = \sum_{x \in E} \mathbb{P}(x)$.

Conditional Probability: $\mathbb{P}(A|B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}$

Bayes Theorem: $\mathbb{P}(A|B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B|A)\mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}$

Partition: Non-empty events $E_1, \dots, E_n$ *partition* the sample space Ω if they are both:

- **(Exhaustive)** $E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i = \Omega$ (they cover the entire sample space).
- **(Pairwise Mutually Exclusive)** For all $i \neq j$, $E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset$ (none of them overlap)

Law of Total Probability (LTP): If events $E_1, \dots, E_n$ partition Ω , then for any event F :

$$\mathbb{P}(F) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(F \cap E_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(F|E_i)\mathbb{P}(E_i)$$

Chain Rule: Let $A_1, \dots, A_n$ be events with nonzero probabilities. Then:

$$\mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A_2|A_1)\mathbb{P}(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2) \dots \mathbb{P}(A_n|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1})$$

Independence: A and B are *independent* if any of the following equivalent statements hold:

1. $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B)$
2. $\mathbb{P}(A|B) = \mathbb{P}(A)$
3. $\mathbb{P}(B|A) = \mathbb{P}(B)$

Mutual Independence: We say n events $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ are *(mutually) independent* if, for any subset $I \subseteq [n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i\right) = \prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{P}(A_i)$$

This equation is actually representing 2^n equations since there are 2^n subsets of $[n]$.

Conditional Independence: A and B are *conditionally independent given an event C* if any of the following equivalent statements hold:

1. $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B|C) = \mathbb{P}(A|C)\mathbb{P}(B|C)$
2. $\mathbb{P}(A|B \cap C) = \mathbb{P}(A|C)$
3. $\mathbb{P}(B|A \cap C) = \mathbb{P}(B|C)$

Random Variable (RV): A random variable (RV) X is a numeric function of the outcome $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The set of possible values X can take on is its *range/support*, denoted Ω_X . If Ω_X is finite or countable infinite (typically integers or a subset), X is a *discrete RV*.

Probability Mass Function (PMF): For a discrete RV X , assigns probabilities to values in its range. That is $p_X: \Omega_X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that: (1) $p_X(k) \geq 0$ for all $k \in \Omega_X$; (2) $\sum_{k \in \Omega_X} p_X(k) = 1$. Furthermore, $p_X(k) = \mathbb{P}(X = k)$.

Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF): The *cumulative distribution function (CDF)* of ANY random variable (discrete or continuous) is defined to be the function $F_X: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $F_X(t) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq t)$.

Expectation (Discrete): $\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{k \in \Omega_X} k \cdot p_X(k)$.

Linearity of Expectation (LoE):

For any random variables X, Y (possibly dependent): $\mathbb{E}[aX + bY + c] = a\mathbb{E}[X] + b\mathbb{E}[Y] + c$

Law of the Unconscious Statistician (LOTUS):

For a RV X and function g : If X is discrete, $\mathbb{E}[g(X)] = \sum_{b \in \Omega_X} g(b) \cdot p_X(b)$.

Variance: $\text{Var}(X) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[X]^2$.

Property of Variance: $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$.

Variance Adds for Independent RVs: If X, Y are independent, then $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$.

counting

Exp.

Var.

Similar format with quizzes

MCQ:

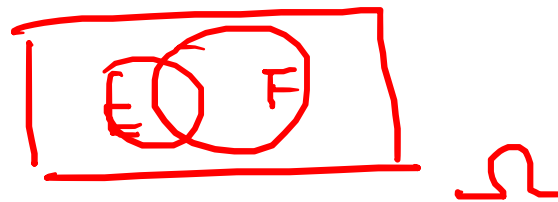
For the questions below,

- Questions with ☐ Circles have exactly one best answer. Fully fill in the circle for the one best answer.
- Questions with ☐ squares are “mark all that apply” questions. Fully fill in the square for all correct options.

Final answers in the box

True / false

False



1-2 min

For any events E and F such that $\Pr(E|E \cap F) > 0$, it holds that $\Pr(E|E \cap F) \leq \Pr(E|F)$

$$\underline{\Pr(E|E \cap F) = 1}$$

$$\Pr(E|E \cap F) = \frac{P(E \cap E \cap F)}{P(E \cap F)} \\ = 1$$

$$\Pr(E|F)$$

possible $E \cap F \neq \emptyset$
 $\Rightarrow$

or $E \cap F = \emptyset$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(E|F) = 0 \leq 1$$

$$\Pr(E|F) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(F)}$$



for time: 3-4 min

Counting

Marlene wants to buy 20 bubble teas for a party. There are 4 flavors available- brown sugar, matcha, lychee, and strawberry.

If she wants to buy at least 2 of each flavor, and if bubble teas of the same flavor are indistinguishable, how many ways are there to select the 20 drinks?

answer:

choose $8 = \underline{2} \cdot \underline{4}$

select 12

stars & bars

$$\binom{12 + 4 - 1}{4 - 1}$$

Counting

comp.

$$|\Omega| = \binom{23}{3} - 21$$

2 min

✓ yay

Marlene wants to buy 20 bubble teas for a party. There are 4 flavors available- brown sugar, matcha, lychee, and strawberry.

[How many ways can Marlene order ²⁰ ~~1~~ drink, such that the drink she ordered ~~contains~~ ^{at least 1} brown sugar flavor, and/or contains matcha flavor?

Consider two orders the same they have the same combination of flavors.

incl.

$$\overline{B \cup M} = \overline{B} \cap \overline{M}$$

1 is b or m

B - at least 1 brown sugar.

19 stars & bars

M - ≥ 1 matcha

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2 & - & \binom{22}{3} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & & \text{—} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow |B| + |M| - |B \cap M| \\ &= \binom{22}{3} + \binom{22}{3} - \binom{21}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Probability



A professor has a test bank of 20 questions that she will draw on for a particular exam. A particular student knows how to solve 12 of them. The exam she gives is a random subset of 8 of the questions.

What is the probability that the student knows how to solve all 8 problems?

$$P(\text{solve all 8}) = \frac{\binom{12}{8}}{\binom{20}{8}} = \frac{|E|}{|\Omega|} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{--- } \binom{12}{8} \\ \text{--- all 8 qs} \\ \binom{20}{8} \end{array}$$



Probability

A professor has a test bank of 20 questions that she will draw on for a particular exam. A particular student knows how to solve 12 of them. The exam she gives is a random subset of 8 of the questions.

What is the probability that the student knows how to solve exactly 6 of the problems?

then, what is $E[\# \text{ of qs student will get right?}]$

$$|\Omega| = \binom{20}{8}$$

$$|E| = \binom{12}{6} \binom{8}{2}$$

↑ ↑

Expectation

A professor has a test bank of 20 questions that she will draw on for a particular exam. A particular student knows how to solve 12 of them. The exam she gives is a random subset of 8 of the questions.

What is the expected number of questions the student will get right?

$$\begin{aligned} X &\rightarrow \# \text{ q's right} \\ P(X=k) &= \frac{\binom{12}{k} \binom{8}{8-k}}{\binom{20}{8}} \\ E[X] &= \sum_{i=0}^8 \frac{\binom{12}{i} \binom{8}{8-i}}{\binom{20}{8}} \end{aligned}$$

Conditional Probability

Allie and her daughter Sophia love watching Kraken ice hockey games. For some games, one of them will wear the lucky tentacle, which affects the Kraken's chances of winning.

- If neither wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability $1/2$.
- If Allie wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability p .
- If Sophia wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability $2p$.

Sophia has an early bed-time, so she only wears the tentacle $1/5$ of the time. Allie wears it $2/5$ of the time and the remaining $2/5$ neither do.

Note that these are the only possibilities (there is no way for both to wear the one lucky tentacle). Let A , S , N be the events that Allie, Sophia, or neither wear the lucky tentacle (respectively).

Let W be the event that the Kraken win.

Conditional Probability

Allie and her daughter Sophia love watching Kraken ice hockey games. For some games, one of them will wear the lucky tentacle, which affects the Kraken's chances of winning.

- If neither wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability $1/2$.
- If Allie wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability p .
- If Sophia wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability $2p$.

Sophia has an early bed-time, so she only wears the tentacle $1/5$ of the time. Allie wears it $2/5$ of the time and the remaining $2/5$ neither do.

Note that these are the only possibilities (there is no way for both to wear the one lucky tentacle). Let A , S , N be the events that Allie, Sophia, or neither wear the lucky tentacle (respectively).

Let W be the event that the Kraken win.

Which conditional probability or probability is referred to in the first bullet?

Conditional Probability

Allie and her daughter Sophia love watching Kraken ice hockey games. For some games, one of them will wear the lucky tentacle, which affects the Kraken's chances of winning.

- If neither wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability $1/2$.
- If Allie wears the lucky tentacle, the Kraken win with probability p .
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Sophia has an early bed-time, so she only wears the tentacle $1/5$ of the time. Allie wears it $2/5$ of the time and the remaining $2/5$ neither do.

Note that these are the only possibilities (there is no way for both to wear the one lucky tentacle). Let A , S , N be the events that Allie, Sophia, or neither wear the lucky tentacle (respectively).

Let W be the event that the Kraken win.

If the Kraken won, what is the probability that Sophia was wearing the lucky tentacle?

Write a formula to represent this probability using only notation (no numbers nor expressions using p ; just probabilities, conditional probabilities, and events) that describe the situation.

Frogger



A frog starts on a 1-dimensional number line at 0.

Each second, independently, the frog takes a unit step right with probability p_1 , to the left with probability p_2 , and doesn't move with probability p_3 , where $p_1 + p_2 + p_3 = 1$.

After 2 seconds, let X be the location of the frog. **Find $\mathbb{E}[X]$.**

Frogger – Brute Force

A frog starts on a 1-dimensional number line at 0. At each second, independently, the frog takes a unit step right with probability p_R , to the left with probability p_L , and doesn't move with probability p_S , where $p_L + p_R + p_S = 1$. After 2 seconds, let X be the location of the frog. Find $\mathbb{E}[X]$.

We could find the PMF by computing the probability for each value in the range of X , and then applying definition of expectation:

$$p_X(x) = \begin{cases} p_L^2 & x = -2 \\ 2p_Lp_S & x = -1 \\ 2p_Lp_R + p_S^2 & x = 0 \\ 2p_Rp_S & x = 1 \\ p_R^2 & x = 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{\omega} P(\omega)X(\omega) = (-2)p_L^2 + (-1)2p_Lp_S + 0 \cdot (2p_Lp_R + p_S^2) + (1)2p_Rp_S + (2)p_R^2 = 2(p_R - p_L)$$

A frog starts on a 1-dimensional number line at 0. At each second, independently, the frog takes a unit step right with probability p_R , to the left with probability p_L , and doesn't move with probability p_S , where $p_L + p_R + p_S = 1$. After 2 seconds, let X be the location of the frog. Find $\mathbb{E}[X]$.

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We think about the outcomes that correspond to each value of X and compute the probability of that. For example, $X=0$ happens when the frog is at the same position after 2 sec – this means it either moved left and then right, or right and then left, or did not move both seconds.

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{\omega} P(\omega)X(\omega) = (-2)p_L^2 + (-1)2p_Lp_S + 0 \cdot (2p_Lp_R + p_S^2) + (1)2p_Rp_S + (2)p_R^2 = 2(p_R - p_L)$$

Frogger – LOE



Or we can apply LoE!

A frog starts on a 1-dimensional number line at 0. At each second, independently, the frog takes a unit step right with probability p_R , to the left with probability p_L , and doesn't move with probability p_S , where $p_L + p_R + p_S = 1$. After 2 seconds, let X be the location of the frog. Find $\mathbb{E}[X]$.

Define X_i as follows:

$$X_i = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if the frog moved left on the } i\text{th step} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \\ 1 & \text{if the frog moved right on the } i\text{th step} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_i] = -1 \cdot p_L + 1 \cdot p_R + 0 \cdot p_S = (p_R - p_L)$$

By Linearity of Expectation,

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^2 X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^2 \mathbb{E}[X_i] = 2(p_R - p_L)$$

Frogger – LOE



If we interested in a whole minute (60 sec), the first approach would be awful because we would need to compute many probabilities or deal with a gnarly summation! Instead, we can use LoE!

A frog starts on a 1-dimensional number line at 0. At each second, independently, the frog takes a unit step right with probability p_R , to the left with probability p_L , and doesn't move with probability p_S , where $p_L + p_R + p_S = 1$. After 60 seconds, let X be the location of the frog. Find $\mathbb{E}[X]$.

Define X_i as follows:

$$X_i = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if the frog moved left on the } i\text{th step} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \\ 1 & \text{if the frog moved right on the } i\text{th step} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_i] = -1 \cdot p_L + 1 \cdot p_R + 0 \cdot p_S = (p_R - p_L)$$

By Linearity of Expectation,

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{60} X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{60} \mathbb{E}[X_i] = 60(p_R - p_L)$$